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# FREE INDIA

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*With About 275 MP's Ready To Realign,*

## Janata Shows Sign Of Disintegration

THERE seems to be a lull before the storm. This is the common summing up of the political situation in the capital these days. No leader of the Janata openly admits the stresses and strains that seems to have developed following, the Prime Minister's assertion of his right to change the port-folios of his ministers. Perhaps, if the change had not affected an important nominee of the Jana Sangh for the industries portfolio, the strain would not have been obvious.

Political observers believe that the shifting of Brijlal Verma from the Industries Ministry and the induction of a radical like George Fernandes has not either endeared the Prime Minister to the diehards of the Jana Sangh or the conservatives of the Charan Singh variety.

### PROCESS OF POLARISATION

This one single act of the Prime Minister seems to have demolished his image among some of the constituents in the Ruling Party as an impartial and elder leader above group and ideological affiliations.

It has also started a process of polarisation not only in the Ruling Party but also in the Congress which is in the Opposition. In the Janata, there is an obvious closing of ranks of the Jana Sangh and Bharatiya Lok Dal, particularly those in it who owe total allegience personally to the ambitious Home Minister rather than to the policies, enunciated in the Party manifesto.

MORARJI DESAI
*LOOKING FOR TALENTS*

### REMARKABLE FINESSE

Thus the strongman of the Jana Sangh, Nana Deshmukh, in co operation with Charan Singh has ensured that wherever the Janata has come into power in the States, the important ministries should be shared by them rather than with the others. The Prime Minister's action was therefore interpreted in political circles as indicative of his displeasure of such manoeuvring.

There was remarkable finesse in the way Morarjibhai shifted

(Contd. on page 2)

## KORANIC LAW IN ACTION

LAST week the new military regime in Pakistan announced that it was imposing Koranic law in that country. Whipping, amputation and death, along with prison terms, were prescribed for a long list of crimes, ranging from theft, armed robbery and insulting the modesty of a woman to political activities, labour organizing and striking. General Zia ul-Haq, the new chief administrator of martial law, decreed that there would be no amputations without his approval and that anesthesia would be used. Nonetheless, the threat was apparently sufficient to cause a sharp drop in crime.

Islamic law is based on the Koran and Muhammad's teachings as well as on clarifications made by later scholars.

"As for the thief, both male and female, cut off their hands. It is the reward of their own deeds, an exemplary punishment from Allah. Allah is mighty, wise."

This stern injunction was enunciated by the Prophet Muhammad some 1,300 years ago to his followers in a primitive desert society. Now, after centuries of being superseded by Western law, the exacting code of the Koran is once more gaining strength and support in a number of countries.

Five Arab states in the Middle East—Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, Libya, North Yemen—base their laws on the Koran. In Egypt, which prides itself on its Western-style sophistication, a parliamentary commission is at work on a new code, based on Islamic law, that would make apostasy, among other crimes, punishable by death. A rider to the proposed bill provides that if a Muslim becomes a Communist he would be considered apostate and therefore subject to beheading.

The law differs from country to country, depending on which of the four major schools of interpretation (Hanafi, Maliki, Shafei and Hanbali) is followed. Islamic justice can be harsh in an eye-for-an-eye manner. Judges tend to opt for severity rather than leniency if there is any doubt.

An American couple in Saudi Arabia caught their Pakistani houseboy stealing one day and ordered him to report to the police. They were astonished when he returned home minus one hand. It had been chopped off and the stub of his arm plunged into boiling tallow to disinfect it.

This spring four men were convicted of rape in Saudi Arabia's Al-Hasa province and sentenced to death. One, a bachelor, was beheaded, The other three were married and guilty of adultery as well as rape. They were buried up to their waists in sand and stoned to death by a mob that used small rocks instead of boulders to prolong their agony. Sometimes the victims pay too. When a German girl was raped by two men a couple of months ago, the judge ordered her flogged "as an accomplice to immorality."

In North Yemen, a convicted thief is required to pick up his chopped-off hand and raise it to his forehead in a salute to the presiding judge. That sort of thing is not done in more liberalized Muslim societies like Libya. Although Strongman Muammar Gaddafi imposed Koranic law in 1973, thieves are usually jailed instead of having their hands amputated. "We want these people to work," says a Libyan police official. "How can they work if we cut off their hands?"

Is Islamic law a deterrent? The Saudis think so, and point to their crime rates, one of the lowest in the world, But recently an influx of low-income foreign workers—most of them Muslim—has caused an upsurge in crime, suggesting that knowing the laws of the Koran and that they are enforced is not necessarily a deterrent. When a Jeddah merchant left a crate of gold unguarded on the air-port tarmac for two weeks, a Somali air-port employee found the temptation too much. He began filching gold bars and selling them in the bazaar. Police caught him in the act and he was sent back to Somalia—minus one hand.

—*Time*

THUS SPAKE
THE MAHATMA

There is no danger whatsoever if many people could truthfully represent the inner voice. But, unfortunately, there is no remedy against hypocrisy.

ASOKA SCENTED BETELNUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY Aug. 7, 1977

## INDIRA GANDHI WAS RIGHT

The Central Bureau of Investigation has been directed "to arrest and prosecute any person, however high or low, as and when a case had been made out of their having committed a cognisable offence" during the emergency.

A frustrated Home Minister–frustrated because of the non-availability of adequate evidence to prove his oft repeated allegations of excesses during the emergency—told the Lok Sabha last week that he had asked the Bureau "to dispense with the routine procedure of full investigation, first information report and obtaining an arrest warrant from a magistrate in such cases."

Within four months of coming to power, claiming massive support from the people, the Janata leaders have pathetically come to realise the need of using MISA. Some of the leaders, who were "real victims" of MISA are afraid even to mention it; but many don't feel shy to canvass for the "black law" to put down the "Big Hoarders."

The Janata government was in a great hurry to release all detenus including known black-marketeers, hoarders, smugglers and bootleggers without proper screening. It is paying the price now—a high price indeed.

From page 1

# P.M. Searching For Talents

Brijlal Verma without saying a word publicly. He never revealed why he had preferred radical George Fernandes to him. But the rumour mill in the capital had already churned out the story.

Verma had played his part as the chief fund-raiser for the Jana Sangh on the eve of the State elections and the Prime Minister had not liked the way he had gone about it for purely factional reasons.

Others have not been so quiet. Jagjivan Ram has already gone on record saying that the Janata will take many years to acquire an identity of its own both ideologically and programme-wise. Meanwhile its various constituents will continue functioning as separate power groups.

NOT AT ALL SURPRISING

Viewed against this background, it is not surprising that a process of polarisation seems to have been set in motion within the Janata which in due course may also affect the Congress in the Opposition. There is open talk of having a showdown much sooner than expected between the Jana Sangh with the dominant group in the BLD led by Charan Singh and all others ranged against this formidable combination.

Indications are that even Morarji Desai may not be able so retain his impartiality in such a showdown if and when it takes place.

The objective conditions for it are evolving in the various constituents in the Janata Party as well as in the Congress Party in Parliament. Feelers have already gone from some important leaders of the Janata to leaders of the Congress that if they could disown and displace Indira Gandhi a new political force may evolve to checkmate the growing entrenchment of the Jana Sangh and the BLD in power in the states and even at the Centre where Charan Singh may in that eventuality be projected as the future Prime Minister by this combination.

How much of this is actually happening and how much of it is the wishful thinking of some frustrated leaders in both parties is difficult to gauge.

What is obvious however is that even the Prime Minister seems to be feeling the resultant pressures that are growing day by day.

According to knowledgeable sources, the growth of these pressures is one of the primary reasons for the delay in the formation of his full cabinet. Morarji Desai is still functioning with the original 19 ministers he started with.

NO LOVE LOST

Confronted with the question as to when he proposes to finalise his Council of Ministers he always replies evasively.

His latest explanation in parliament was that he did not know many in his party and had started meeting different members every week in an effort to find talent. Perhaps that is the right explanation. After all, composed as it is of diverse political groups and parties, everyone could not have been known to him.

But in the past in his selection of the original 19 ministers Morarji Desai was obviously guided by the various group leaders apart from the individual's own reputation in parliament and public life.

The same method could have been adopted to expand his Council of Ministers had not suspicion grown among the various constituents in the Janata.

With the growing strength of the Jan Sangh–BLD combine, Desai is likely to find the selection of other ministers and junior ministers rather difficult. It is openly being said that for every ministry headed by a non-BLD/JS man these two would like to have their man as minister in the same ministry. For instance, the Jangh having lost industries portfolio to George Fernandes is now insisting that the junior minister should be from its ranks.

Similarly there is no love lost between Charan Singh and Bahuguna and the former would like someone of his trust in Bahuguna's ministry to keep a watch on him.

This new and formidable combination of the Jana Sangh and BLD is also watching the performance of radicals like Mohan Dharia and George Fernandes in the cabinet and Chandra Shekhar as the party chief knowing that all the radical statements by these people cannot reverse the process of inflation that has already assumed alarming proportions.

Even the Finance Ministry experts feel that prices will continue rising till October whatever the Government might do to control them.

The Finance Minister has not been able to do very much except tightening a bit here and chopping a bit there through his budget. In fact he has not been able to withstand the pressure from his own colleagues representing the working class and the Congress to prevent payment of the second instalment of Dearness Allowance instead of impounding it in the provident fund account thus injecting another Rs. 200 crores into the economy which is already under terrific inflationary pressure.

INABILITY TO FIND SOLUTIONS

This inability to find solutions to immediate economic problems is also aggravating the pulls and pressures within the Ruling Party. According to one estimate those who would like to break up with the Jana Sangh–BLD in the Janata Party have secured a strength of about 275 in a house of 525. They are only waiting for the senior leaders of the Congress in the Opposition to openly break away from the continuing domination of Indira Gandhi in order to forge a new political alignment at the Centre.

How far this nebulous move would succeed is difficult to say. But it would not be for lack of trying on the part of some who are not comfortable in the Janata and in the Congress controlled by Indira.

—*Current of Bombay*

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**Mrs. Indira Gandhi left a disciplined government, with a huge food surplus and foreign exchange earning. Under her rule the railways showed surplus, public sector industries profits. And she left gracefully**

**The successor Janata, instead of taking advantage of the situation to build a better Bharat wasted its little energy in foolish witchhunting**

**Any government, which cannot guarantee essential commodities at reasonable prices to the common people cannot last long.**

**Mere threats won't produce goods. With out adequate production, prices cannot be controlled. Ministers speaking with many voices have already disrupted discipline.**

**The situation is fast turning condusive to Smt. Indira Gandhi's comeback. It may be an easy walk over for her.**

## Thinning Ranks

The Vatican's Annuario Statistico della Chiesa has reported that the number of Catholic clergymen is decreasing by an average of 8 per cent a year. And not only because of "natural losses," that is, death, but also because many leave the holy orders. Of the 143,845 seminarians in 1975, more than 14,000 dropped out.

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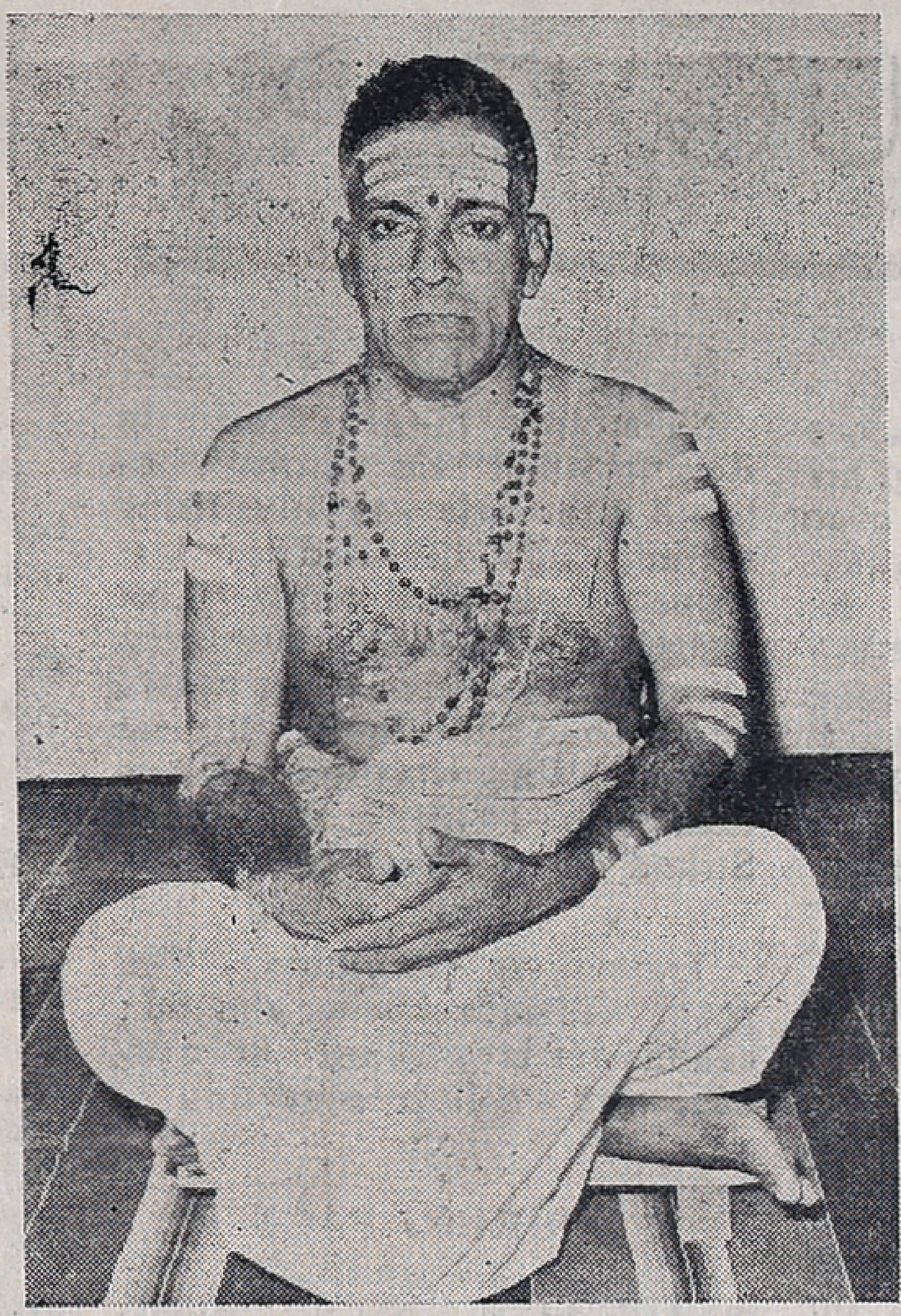
# SRI GAYATHRI SWAMIGAL



SRI GAYATHRI SWAMIGAL and SRI GAYATHRI MATHA worshipped by him.

The name of Sri Gayathri Swamigal is slowly establishing itself as a household name in many of the devout families in Madras, and other places where he visited.

Sri Gayathri Swamigal has acquired certain devine powers through the blessings of his guru and performing pooja regularly to Sri Gaythri Matha, Sri Vadivudai Manickam, Sri Meenakshi Amman and Samayavaram Sri Mariamman.

Swami was born to Sri Ananthakrishnan and Srimathi Lakshmi Ammal in 1924 in Trivandrum. He has six brothers and four sisters. He was named Padmanabha Sarma by his parents. His marriage took place in 1948 and he has a son—Babuji.

Dejected in family life, he went to Madurai. He came under the influence of Sri Kuzhandai Vadivel Swami and his disciple Thirukkattupalli Sri Balakrishna Iyer. He was initiated into mystic powers by Sri Balakrishna Iyer. He was then called Sri Anandhanandha Swami.

He carried continuosly for six years the Milk pot (Palkudam) for abhishekam to Lord Muruga at Thiruparamkundram near Madurai on Vaikasi Visaka day. His devotion and Bhakthi bore fruit and he gained the siddhic powers with which he is now blessing the devotees.

His mission now is to spread Bhakth among the public, as per his guru's wish.

Now, he stays with his brother Sri A Subramania Iyer, Advocate, in Madras and periodically visits various places and blesses the devotees.

Sri Gayathri Swami's message to *Free India*:

*'Free India'* can make our India really free from want. If *YOUNG INDIA* of Mahatma could enable us to attain freedom, *FREE INDIA* could make us strong in body and mind and attain spiritual glory. May Sri Gayathri Matha shower her choicest blessings on *FREE INDIA* for ever and ever so that it may serve our country to spread peace and prosperity.

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# National Institute of Hydrology

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is to assist the Government of India in establishing a National Institute of Hydrology which will function as an autonomous scientific institute of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The institute will conduct scientific studies in pure and applied hydrology to improve the present practices of water resources development in India. An agreement to this effect has been signed between the Government and the UNDP. United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) will act as the executing agency for this project.

### LOCATION

The institute is proposed to be located in the University of Roorkee. The infra-structure will be provided by this University, the Central Water Commission, the Central Electricity Authority, the Indian Meteorological Department and the Central Groundwater Board which have already developed considerable know how in their respective fields.

### CONTRIBUTIONS

The total project costs have been estimated at $ 1.6 million, of which the Government contribution by way of land, building, staff will be Rs. 72,82,000. The UNDP assistance, which will total approximately $800,000 over five years, will be utilised for specialised training abroad of the institute's staff and familiarisation tours to reputed universities, firms and loboratories in USA, U. K., Canada, Australia, USSR and Hungary.

It will also be utilised in the appointments of international experts, including a Consultant in Hydrology, consultants in automatic data collection, systems studies and snow hydrology. UNDP will also provide field equipment for the various divisions of the institute.

Rapid industrialisation, urbanisation and the increasing needs of agriculture of a growing population have resulted in considerable demand for more water.

At the present rate of increase, the demand for water in the country may far exceed the available supply by the end of the century. Therefore, to meet the growing demand for water, it is necessary that intensive and extensive investigations into the various aspects of hydrology be carried out in a systematic manner through a full-fledged national research institute.

### WATER BUDGET

By the end of the period of UNDP assistance, a full-fledged institute is expected to be set up which will, among other activities, develop an appropriate methodology for the study of the National Water Budget.

## Ceres Medal

Dr. Helen Newton Turner of Australia, a world famous animal geneticist, is featured as Ceres, the ancient Roman goddess of agriculture, in the latest medal released by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

First issued in 1971, the Ceres Medals portray distinguished women from all over the world who share FAO's ideal of a world free from hunger.

Dr. Turner has been selected in recognition of her longtime work and study of sheep breeding. Of particular importance is Dr. Turner's work in selection in the breeding of Merino sheep. Hence, the medal reverse shows a Merino ewe and two lambs with a genetic formula referring to selection for twinning in Merinos.

Other outstanding women who have featured on the Ceres medals are: Princess Grace of Monaco, Empress Farah of Iran and Mother Teresa of India.

# FUN AND LAUGHTER

### IRRESISTIBLE: THE QUEUE

For hours a Bucharest citizen waited for his wife to return from a shopping expedition. She had left early in the morning; and, at last, after endless queueing, returned with an empty basket "This is the limit," cried her husband, and, sticking a revolver in his belt, exclaimed, "I'll shoot her."

'Shoot whom?" murmured the terrified wife.

"Why, Anna Parker, of course. So long as she governs the country, we shall always have useless queues and poverty."

Two hours later he returned to his grief-stricken wife

"Well," she whispered, "did you shoot her?',

"No," came the reply. "Even for that there was a queue."

x x x

### PERTINENT QUERY

The conscientious father was dispensing advice to his son who was about to be married.

"Co-operation is the foundation of successful marriage." Pop said solemnly. "You must do things together. For instance, if your wife wants to go for a walk, go for a walk with her. If she wants to go to the movies, go to the movies with her. If she wants to do the dishes, do the dishes with her."

The son listened dutifully, then asked, "Suppose she wants to mop the floor?"

* * *

### EXPLANATION

The professor of chemistry was giving a demonstration of the properties of various acids.

"Now," he said. "I am going to drop this silver dollar into this glass of acid. Will it dissolve?"

"No, sir," replied one of the students.

"No?" said the demonstrator. "Then perhaps you will explain to the class why it won't dissolve."

"Because," came the answer, "if it would, you wouldn't drop it in."

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### PERFECT ARTIST

The Sunday school teacher noticed Jimmy was moving his pencil around, and walked over to see what the boy was doing. "What are you drawing?" he asked. "I'm drawing a picture of God," came the surprising reply. "But you can't do that," objected the instructor "Nobody knows how God looks" Jimmy smiled confidently. "They will," he said, "when I get this done."

x x x

### DISCIPLINE

A British officer was arguing with an American officer as to which army had the better discipline. As the American was talking, one of his men came in: "Cap," said the private, "can I have your jeep tonight? I'm taking out a dame."

"Sure," replied the officer. Then turning to the Briton, he said: "There's a proof of our discipline. He didn't have asked me!"

x x x

### JUST A MIX-UP!

Lowell Thomas likes to tell how he was embarrassed at a newsreel showing one day. He had done the commentary on a scene in one of the navy yards and also on a scene that showed a well-known society woman at the races. Somehow, the sound tracks got mixed up. The picture of the society woman came on the screen and Lowell Thomas's voice boomed out: "This old battleship will soon be hauled into dry-dock for repairs."

x x x

A philosopher is one who, instead of crying over spilt milk, consoles himself with the thought that it was four-fifths water anyway.

* * *

### CONVOY SYSTEM!

An elderly citizen, climbing aboard a tram, protested indignantly to the conductor. "I've been waiting here twenty minutes and now three trams come along in a bunch."

The conductor eyed him sympathetically. "It's all right," he explained. "It's the convoy system We haven't lost a single tram this month"

x x x

### TOO BUSY

After applying for his Canadian citizenship, a carpenter was being questioned in court. He answered all the questions correctly. Then the judge asked "Could you become Prime Minister of Canada?"

"No," was the reply.

"Why not?" asked the official.

"You please excuse," begged the carpenter, "but I am very busy right now repairing houses!"

### LOST PROPERTY!

Shambling towards us in Regent Street was a sandwich-board man: He was advertising a firm which disposed of lost property, and the words "Lost Property" were boldly displayed all over his boards. As we passed he touched our sleeve. "Excuse me, guv'," he whispered, "'ow the'ell do I get back to the Strand?"

x x x

Training is everything. The peach was once a better almond; cauliflower is nothing but cabbage with a college education.

x x x

### STRIKING FACT

A young college student remarked to the date, "That's 'Pink Lightning' lipstick you're wearing, isn't it?"

Flattered that he should notice the color of her lipstick, the girl replied, "Why yes, but how did you know?"

"Oh," he quipped. "I've been struck by it before;"

x x x

### WIFE FOR A PAL

Jack was dead, and Bill called on the widow to express sympathy.

'Jack and I were close friends,' Bill said. 'Isn't there something I could have to remember him by?'

Tearfully, the widow raised her eyes and whispered softly: "Would I do?"

x x x

### LOVELY FUNERAL

"When I grow up," said the dear little film star to her mother, "I'll be able to look after you. I'm going to be a millionaire."

"Yes, dear."

"I'll be able to give you a lovely funeral," said the dear little girl.

x x x

### DEPUTY DRIVER

"Has your wife learned to drive the car yet?"

"Yes—in an advisory capacity."

x x x

### Q BREAKER

The nurse beckoned to one of a group of expectant fathers, and announced, 'You have a fine son.'

Immediately another man rushed up and complained, "What's the idea? I was here before he was."

x x x

### INSCRUTABLE

"Dad, what is an inscrutable smile?"

"It's the kind, my son, your mother had on her face this morning when I told her that business might keep me out late to-night."

### BEST DEFENCE

In London, the War Office's 'British Army Journal' had some advice for civilians of the atomic age:

"The best defence today against the atomic bomb is not to be there when it goes off."

x x x

### IDEA

"Why is your car painted blue on one side and red on the other?"

"Oh, it is a fine idea. You should just hear the witnesses contradicting one another."

x x x

### TOO FAST

Small children have a happy knack of seeing things whole and crystal clear. A father had taken his four-year-old son for a walk. Temporarily forgetting that his offspring's legs were considerably shorter than his own, he was remorsefully aware that the youngster was having some difficulty in making the grade.

"Am I walking too fast, Peter?" inquired the father, sympathetically dropping to half-speed.

"No, daddy," replied the infant, puffing breathlessly, "but I am."

x x x

### IDEA!

The beautiful blonde behind the glove counter was idly polishing her nails, when a mildly distraught man rushed up to her and exclaimed: "I have lost my wife in this shop. Do you mind if I converse with you a little while?"

"For goodness sake!" the girl replied. "What good will that do?"

"Just wait and see," the man pleaded. "She is sure to turn up if I am talking to a pretty girl!"

She found him in three minutes!

x x x

### COSTLY LANGUAGE!

A son at college sent his mother an itemized list of his expenses along with a request for additional check. The mother complained to her best friend that the expenses were just terrible. "And look," she said, "it's the languages that cost the most—Scotch, 50 dollars!"

x x x

### NOT INTERESTED

The parson is explaining the Story of the Creation.

Jimmy, raising his hand: "My father says that we all come from monkeys."

Parson, gently, "My boy, I am not the least bit interested in your family affairs."

x x x

### FOUR TYPES

The young artist kissed his model: "I bet you do that to all your models," she said.

"No," he said, "you are the first."

"How many models have you had?"

"Four," he answered, "A rose, an onion, a banana, and you."

For The Week 7th August] To 13th August 1977

**GLOSSARY**

| | |
|---|---|
| Arudra | —திருவாதிரை |
| Pushya | —பூசம் |
| Ashlesha | —ஆயில்யம் |
| Purva Phalguni | —பூரம் |
| Uttara Phalguni | —உத்திரம் |
| Anuradha | —அனுஷம் |
| Jyeshtha | —கேட்டை |
| Purva Ashada | —பூராடம் |
| Uttara Ashada | —உத்திராடம் |
| Shravana | —திருவோணம் |
| Dhanistha | —அவிட்டம் |
| Satha Bhishag | —சதயம் |
| Purva Bhadra-pada | —பூரட்டாதி |
| Uttara Bhadra-pada | —உத்திரட்டாதி |

**MESHA (ARIES)**
Aswini Bharani
Krittika 1/4

FAVOURABLE period continues. You should try to reorganise your bus ness set up to get better results. You should also try to find a new source of income through partnership arrangement. Financial position will be satisfactory. Speculative gains are also indicated. You may have to undertake short journeys frequently. Avoid friction with associates. Also avoid impulsive actions in deciding property matters. You can expect cooperation from yotr family members. Favourable days: 9th & 10th.

★

**VRISHABA (TAURUS)**
Krittika 3/4 Rohini
Mrigashirsha 1/2

MIXED results are indicated. You will be able to solve some of the long pending problems. Financial position will improve. But avoid speculative investments for some more time. Partnerphip matters should be finalised only after consulting your seniors, Promotional possibilities are bright. Change of place is indicated for some. You may have to take up additional responsibilities in the domestic sphere. Property matters should be handled properly to avoid legai complications later. Favourable days: 11th & 12th.

★

**MITHUNA (GEMINI)**
Mrigashirsha 1/2 Arudra
Punarvasu 3/4

MIXED result are indicated. You should wait for some more time to implement your programme. You can not expect quick results for the efforts you were making for the last two or three weeks. But you should continue your efforts. You are moving in the right direction and you will be able to reap the benefits in a couple of weeks. Family responsibilities will increase. Avoid friction with family members. Financial position will be satisfactory. Avoid long distance journeys this week. Favourable days: 13th & 14th.

★

**KATAKA (CANCER)**
Punarvasu 1/4 Pushya
Ashlesha

FAVOURABLE period to implement your programme. You can expect encouragement and support from your superiors. Promotional possibilties are bright. Financial position will improve You can also expect minor speculative gains this week end. You may have to take up additional responsibilities in the domestic sphere. But you can expect cooperation from your family members. Matters relating to children require attention. Health will be well maintianed. You may have to undertake a journey with your family this week. Favourable days: 9th & 10th

★

**SIMHA (LEO)**
Maka Purva Palguni
Uttara Palguni 1/4

MIXED results are indicated. You can not expect complete relief from the pressure of work and responsibility immediately. It will take two more weeks to get complete relief. Avoid hasty actions in deciding important matters. Also avoid friction with associates. Financial position will improve. Speculative gains are also indicated. Property matters should be handled porperly to avoid legal complications later. Change of place is indicated for some. There is no major changes in the office this week. Favourable days: 7th & 8th

★

**KANYA (VIRGO)**
Uttara Palguni 3/4 Hastha
Chitra 1/2

FAVOURABLE period to implement your programme. You will be able to start new ventures. You will be able to finalise partnership arrangements favourably. Promotional possibilities are bright. Financial position will be satisfactory. Speculative gains are also indicated. Matters relating to children require attention. Consult your elders before finalising the matter. Health will be well maintained. Short journeys are indicated. Favourable days: 9th & 10th.

★

**THULA (LIBRA)**
Chitra 1/2 Swathi
Visakha 3/4

FAVOURABLE period continues. You will be able to solve some of the long pending problems before the end of this week. You will be able to reap the benefits for the efforts made last month. There is not much change in the domestic sphere. But avoid friction with elders. And also avoid taking up additional responsibilities and expenses. If you are thinking of buying a house or property, it is better to wait for some more time. Favourable days: 12th & 13th

★

**VRISCHIKA (SCORPIO)**
Vishakha 1/4 Anuradha
Jyeshtha

MIXED results are indicated. You will be able to solve the financial problem this week. But avoid speculative investments for some more time. You will be able to finali e partnership arrangements favourably. Property matters require attention. You can expect cooperation from your family members. Matters relating to children could be finalised favourably. You may have to undertake a journey this week end. Avoid friction with associates. You should be cautious in dealing with strangers. Favourable days: 8th & 9th

★

**DHANUS (SAGITTARIUS)**
Mula Purva Ashadha
Uttara Ashadha 1/4

FAVOURABLE period to implement your programme. You should try to make best use of this opportunity to improve your prospects. Financial position will improve. Speculative gains are also indicated. Property matters could be finalised favourably. You can expect cooperation from your family members. But matters relating to children will be a source of anxiety. You may have to undertake a journey shortly. You should try to revive your contacts with your business associates with whom you have lost touch some time back. Favourable days; 11th & 12th

★

**MAKARA (CAPRICORNUS)**
Uttara Ashadha 3/4
Shravana Dhanistha 1/2

MIXED results are indicated. You will be able to solve some of the long pending problems this week. But you can not expect complete relief from the pressure of work and responsibility. It will take atleast two more weeks to settle down for routine work. Family problems will be taking up much of the time. Financial position will improve. But avoid speculative investments this week. You may have ta undertake a journey shortly. Partnership arrangements could be finalised favourably. Favourable days: 12th & 13th

★

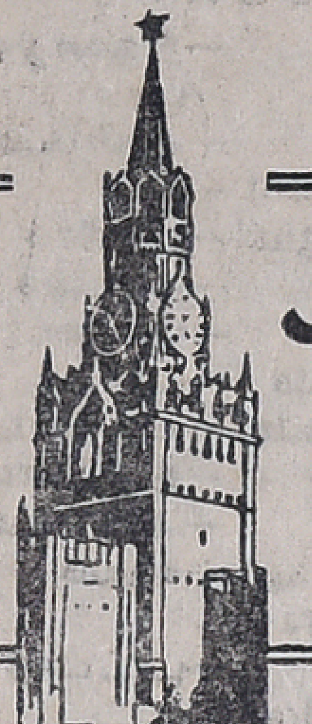
**KUMBHA (AQUARIUS)**
Dhanishta 1/2 Sathabhishag
Purva Badrapada 3/4

MIXED results are indicated. Financial position will improve. Speculative gains are also indicated. There is no major change in the office this week. But you should be prepared for additional responsibility. And also avoid friction with associates. Domestic responsibility will increase. Matters relating to children could be finalised. Change of place is indicated for some. Health will be well maintained. Favourable days: 9th & 10th

★

**MEENA (PISCES)**
Purva Badrapada 1/4
Uttara Badrapada Revati

FAVOURABLE period to implement your plans. You will be able to solve some of the long pending problems this week. You can expect much encouragement and support from your superiors. Promotional possibilities are bright. Matters relating to children require attention. Family members will be cooperative. Partnership arrangements could be finalised, favourably. Avoid long distance journeys this week. Health will be well maintained. Favourable days: 11th & 12th



# Muscovite's Diary

Ivan Ivanov

## SOVIET HIGHER SCHOOLS

Soviet higher schools will be admitting this summer a million boys and girls. In this connection, entrance examinations have already started at 860 institutes and universities of the country.

Giving this information in an interview, Vyacheslav Ye'yutin, Minister of Higher Education of the USSR said that statistics showed that most of the young people sought to receive education in engineering and technical educational establishments. "This year we offer new promising specialities connected specifically with the construction and equipment of nuclear power stations automation, molecular biology, environmental protection, and genetics", the Minister said.

Higher schools offered to young people any of 430 specialities which fully met the requirements of the economy, science and culture. Vyacheslav Yelyutin emphasised the right to choose any of them, the right which is guaranteed by another one, the right to education.

He pointed out that the higher education system in the USSR was a vivid illustration of the state's care for the young people and their future. There was only one condition for entering an institute: to pass entrance examinations. There were members of all nations and nationalities of the Soviet Union among five million students. Education is free. The state grants stipends to students.

Soviet higher school students have another right guaranteed for them: the right to work. All graduates of institutes and universities are provided with jobs according to their specialities.

## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S MOVEMENT

The international meeting on "Women and Socialism" held at Moscow was attended by more than 100 representatives of Women's Unions and international organisations from 50 countries, including from India.

Smt. Sarojini Varadappan, Vice-President of the All India Women's Conference, said in an interview that the International Forum of Women was of particular importance because it was held in the capital of the Soviet Union in the year marking the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. "The Revolution in Russia", she said, "has ushered in the road of social regeneration and drawn women into social activity".

She said that she and other delegates were greatly impressed by the report of Valentina Nikolayeva Tereshkova, President of the Soviet Women's Committee. The report contained a detailed review of the international women's movement. The Indian delegate noted that the Moscow forum was a further stimulus to the women's movement.

## MAKING A NINTH CENTURY BOW

Experts have been studying a bow which had lain in the earth for eleven centuries before it was discovered, in the north Caucasus, marvellously preserved. They have worked out how it was made, and say it must have taken well over a year.

The wood and horn must have been steeped, heated over a slow fire, and all the surfaces fitted together with repeated glueing. After that the bow was bent into a ring, in the opposite direction to the curve it would take in use, and kept in that condition for atleast a year.

The long range was ensured by powerful tendons fastened to the outer surface, and strips of horn fastened to the "horns" of the bow damped vibration of the bow-string and made for greater accuracy.

## FOUND IT

This woman's surly spouse would sit for hours, without speaking, whenever he was the least bit muffed about something. One evening after he had spent the day without a word to her, she lit a candle and walked round and round the room. All at once he growled; "What the devil are you looking for ?"

"Your voice, Harold," she answered sweetly. "I'm so glad I found it."

# When Man Is His Own Doctor

By Dr. ZORI BALAYAN

When my neighbour's son came running for me, I saw by the expression on his face that this time it was serious. I had called on his father on many occasions. He suffered from a light form of diabetes, but usually it was a case of quinsy or the 'flu when he sent for me.

My neighbour lay on high pillow unconscious. None of his relatives could give me a coherent account of what had happened. All they could say for certain was that the man had caught cold the day before, that, as always, he had taken some pills and had hot footbaths. In a word, everything had proceeded "normally". His son added that before going to bed his father had drunk a glass of peppered vodka.

I noticed that on the patient's night-table lay boxfuls of medicines. Among them were pencillin, tetracycline, glutethimide (a light sedative) and naturally, the diabetic's perennial insulin.

My neighbour was taken to hospital. However, the attempts to save him failed. At first it was difficult even to figure out what had happened. Everything had proceeded "normally". But the fatality was a result of his ignorance of the fact that some combinations of medicines are lethal.

After that tragic episode, I have often thought that hardly anyone is immune to such a preposterous fatality. Long discussions of illnesses with my neighbour came back to my mind, and I recalled this man, a trained engineer, saying that in our time man just cannot get along without self-treatment.

## REASON

I wouldn't take absolute objection to this view. I assume that people indulge or even over-indulge in self-treatment for a variety of reasons, which include a natural desire to get rid of an ailment as soon as possible and without trouble rather than out of ignorance or a pathological addiction to medicines. However, much has been written about the possible harm of attempts at self-cures. Nevertheless, self-treatment is a widespread practice.

When a cold or sore throat strikes, millions of owners of medicine chests resort to pills and powders, including antibiotics, without suspecting that there is a rigorous table of compatibility of medical preparations.

A good therapeutic effect exercised by some preparation in the initial treatment period evokes in the patient unlimited confidence in this medicine. In time he begins literally to juggle with its doses. Meanwhile, medics (unfortunately, medics alone) are well acquainted with the rule; small doses of a medicine stimulate the activity of live cells, medium ones intensify it, major ones oppress it, and very large ones paralyse it. Incidentally, this rule was discovered back in the 19th century, when medicines were not industrially-manufactured potent chemicals as they are today. They were simple ointments, decoctions, infusions or syrups made from plants. Until 1938, the preparations which resembled the present "miracle drugs" could be counted on the fingers of one hand.

The pluses and minuses of self treatment stand out with particular clarity during 'flu epidemics. Many people (if not the majority), without consulting a doctor, take medicines and antibiotics on their own initiative.

## RESEARCH RESULT

Meanwhile, research conducted in the Moscow Institute of Virology has revealed that if a person with the 'flu takes something to reduce fever, in particular, aspirin, abrupt changes in temperature will be registered. It will slump and flare — several times during the course of the illness. "However", says an official document, "this benefits only the 'flu virus and not the patient".

"Not the patient" should in this case be taken to mean "harmful to the patient"; the same document states that experimental investigations and clinical observations have shown that the body get rid of the 'flu virus sooner in the case of acute progress of the disease. A high temperature has a killing effect on the virus, curbing the illness in two or three days. The 'flu with a slight temperature (due to treatment) usually lasts longer. Unfortunately, these questions are discussed in purely medicine publications. But who will make them know to the general public ?

## A WORD OF CAUTION

Particular caution is to be exercised with regard to the medicine which for various reasons have gained the reputation of panacesa. For instance, although the disadvantages of antibiotics are surveyed in as many publications as their advantages, the powerful inertia borne of the heavy publicity given to the "panacea's" early period of existence holds people under its spell to this day.

Naturally, nobody is contesting the importance of fever medicines, or aspirin, or antibiotics. But if they are useless in 'flu cases it means they should not be taken in these cases. Furthermore the 'flu frequently strikes millions of people, sometimes even twice a year. In this situation self-treament is almost unavoidable since so many individuals are affected within a short period of time !

It is said that a medicine is like a flower from which a snake makes poison while a bee makes honey. Incidentally, even snake venom may become a curative elixir. However, in using this elixir the patient should bear in mind that it is still a poison.

# IDA Help For Farm Development

The International Development Association (IDA) an affiliate of the World Bank, has announ ed the approval of two credits totalling $ 83 million to assist agricultural development in India.

A credit of $ 70 million will help finance two irrigation projects in the State of Maharashtra. The other credit of $ 13 million will assist an agricultural research and extension project in the State of Rajasthan.

## MAHARASHTRA PROJECT

The credit will help finance four years in infrastructure construction for the Jayakwadi Irrigation system, begin the modernisation of the adjacent Purna Irrigation system, and start a ten or fifteen year command area development programme designed to serve one million hectares.

The project will alleviate food shortages, improve farmers incomes and provide additional employment opportunities.

At full development in ten years, the Jayakwadi project will help increase net annual farm incomes from the present average of about $ 178 to an average estimated $ 1,367 per family.

The project will provide about 38,000 man-years of additional employment in agriculture, mainly for landless labourers, who make up one third of the population. It will increase the annual production by about $ 24 million worth, including 111,000 tons of foodgrain.

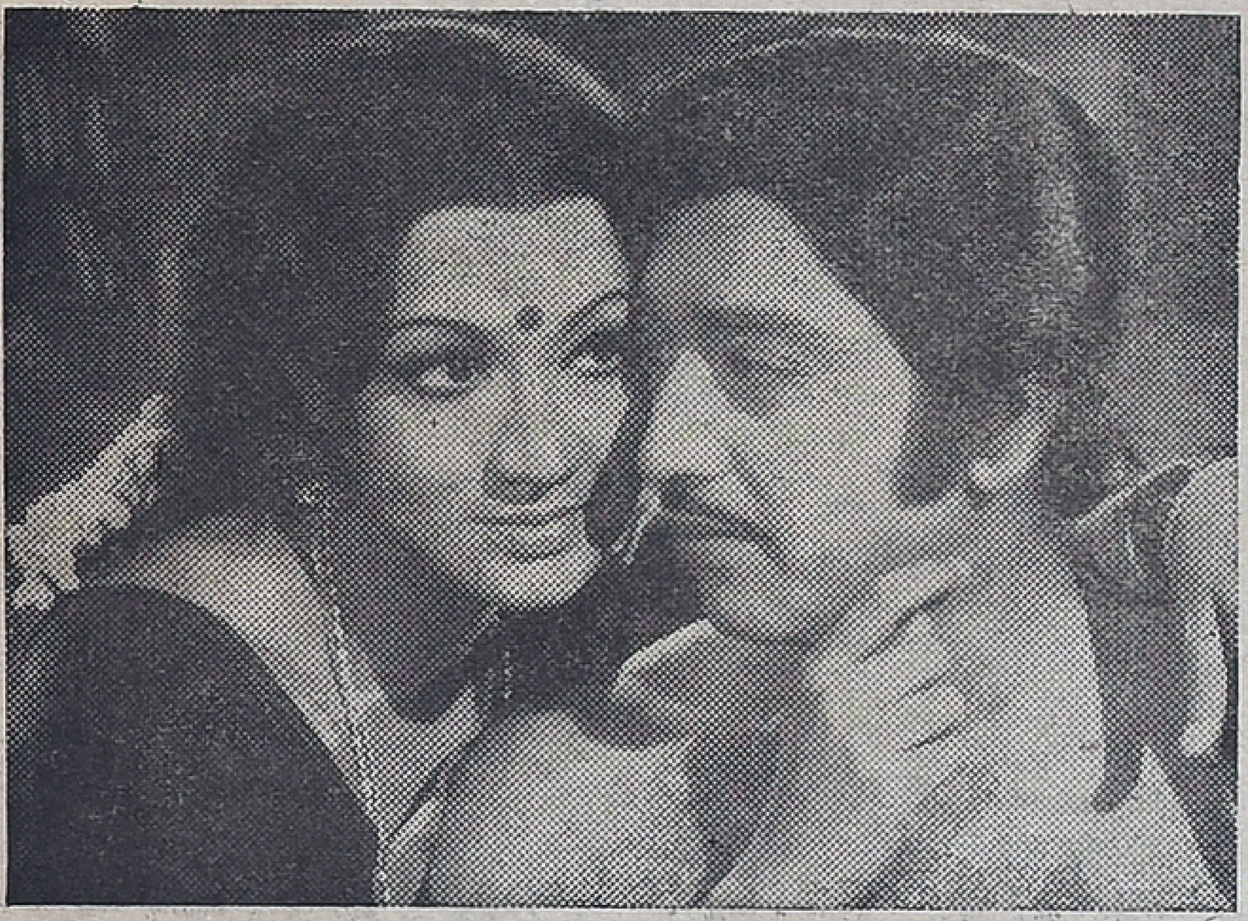
## THE FIRST STEP

This is IDA's first major irrigation project in the drought-prone central Deccan region of India. The project marks the first step in an irrigation programme that will cover over a million hectares in this State.

## DIRECT BENEFITS

The project is designed to consolidate and strengthen agricultural extension services in 17 out of the 26 districts in the State of Rajasthan, and help develop adaptive research facilities with the objective of achieving early and sustained improvements in agricultural production, particularly foodgrains.

It is estimated that the project will directly benefit about 290,000 contact farmers and through them at least 1.5 million of the 2.9 million farm families living in the area.



Jayaprabha and Muthuraman as they appear in director A. C. Tirulokchander's latest film " PENN JANMAM." It is to be released on August 19.

*FILM REVIEW*

# "Let's Do It Again"

Warner Brothers have in store a lilting comedy which bears out that even the worst of crooks can be taught a thing or two at their own game of treachery.

In First Artiste's "LET'S DO IT AGAIN", Bill Cosby as the brainy and fast-tounged pal of Sidney Poitier succeed in out witting and drawing a 200 Grand coup on a sinister gang of hard-boiled bookmakers in a world Middle-weight boxing match held in New Orleans.

The story begins in Atlanta City where a milkman, Clyde Williams (Sidney Poitier), and his friend, a factory crane handler, Billy Foster (Bill Cosby), both members of a Community Lodge, have been planning to take their wives on a vacation to New Orleans.

Foster sells his car to raise the cash to give his wife a lavish wedding anniversary treat in New Orleans.

Williams and Foster are interested to collect funds for the Lodge, to have its own premises.

It is Foster's idea to make a bid for big gamble in New Orleans by staking the Lodge's funds of which he is the treasurer to raise money for the building. Williams is able to hypnotise the under dog puny-built challenger, Bootney Farnsworth (Jimmy Walker) in his hotel. On the night of the fight, Bootney KOs the 40th Street Black (Rodolphus Lee Hayden).

Williams and Foster collect a huge packet and return to Atlanta City to hand in their money as fortune from the Stockmarket.

Six months later as the celebration for the new Lodge building is in full swing, the thugs from New Orleans on having learnt of the mean trick played on them storm the scene thirsting for the blood of Williams and Foster. They, however offer, a deal to the two friends so that this time Bootney could be hypnotised again during the sparring practices to give the impression that he could beat anybody only to be de-hypnotised just before the actual fight so that all the bets placed on Bootney to win the bout, can be swallowed by the crooks. Williams and Foster agree to do this as they have no other choice.

The plot reaches a climax when Williams is not able to dehypnotise Bootney. How the crooks are fooled in the exciting game of double-cross can be best seen on the screen.

It is a new Poitier, who allows his co-starring partner, Bill Cosy, to reach the limelight in a piece of brilliant acting. The film is directed by Sydney Poitier himself. —DV.

## Nudist Dressed Down

How much is a nudist worth? Plenty, it seems. A court in Bastia (Corsica) established that a West German citizen running the Corsicana nudist camp was making a lot of money out of it and, though it is forbidden by law, took large sums home after each tourist season. The court ruled to confiscate from him the sum he had taken out (6 million francs) and to fine him the same amount.

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## The Dope Racket

Almost 30,000 people were arrested in Thailand in the first five months of this year on charges of peddling drugs, according to Major-General Phao Sarasin, secretary of that country's Police Narcotics Division. Of these, 29,734 traded in heroin and the rest in opium and morphine.

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## Crime In South Africa

Seventeen murders were comitted daily in South Africa last year, reports the Pretoria News. All told, there were about 300,000 major crimes registered in 1976.

## Paying For Noise

A conflict has flared up in New Orleans (U.S.A.) between the police and the operators of night clubs in Bourbon Street. Residents in the neighbourhood had been complaining of the incredible noise made by the band, saying it robbed them of their sleep. The police reacted to the complaints and set the noise ceiling for jazz bands at 85 decibles and began to use noise metres to measure the decibel level. After the first violation club owners get a summons, after the second they may get jail. The operators and musicians are protesting. "We can't do our jobs, we have to hold back, and the customer who pays to hear bone fide Dixieland gets cheated", said one of them. They may ask the courts to intervene.

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## Alcoholism

Citing figures issued by the German Order of Good Templars, the West German *Frankfurter Allgemeine* reports that in the past two decades the number of chronic alcoholics in the Federal Republic has increased from 200,000 to almost two million, and that the damage caused by alcoholism now comes to 10,000 million marks a year.

## Not On Sale

A new political magazine called *Chief Executive* has made its appearance in the United States. The Associated Press reports that it "is not available on newstands and cannot be purchased for any amount of money". All 25,000 copies will be mailed free of charge "only to national leaders and the heads of international companies, labour unions, world religions and institutions of higher learning". Its editor, Henry O. Dorman, says it will exist solely on receipts for advertisements. A page-size colour advertisement will cost between $ 10,000 and $ 15,000.

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## The Orient Express

The famous Orient Express, featured in Agatha Christie's thrillers and in other novels has made its last trip when on May 22 it arrived in Istanbul from Paris

Jayalakshmi who has given a fine performance in Devar's SORGAM NARAGAM.

# Sorgam Naragam : A Purposeful Film

M. M. A. Chinnappa Devar's Dhandayudhapani Films' SORGAM NARAGAM is a purposeful film.

It shows with telling effect how any happy family can be ruined by suspicion and jealousy of the women folk in the house. At the same time it also proves how a devoted wife can reform a wayward husband by patience and perseverence.

It is a remake of the Telugu film of the same title. The original story is written by Dasari Narayana Rao. Ma. Ra. has written the diologues for the film, which is crisp, sharp and effective.

Jayalakshmi and Sivakumar are the happy couple whose life becomes a miserable one because of the suspicion and jealousy of Jayalakshmi. Jayalakshmi has given a fine performance while Sivakumar proves equal to her in acting.

Vijayakumar as the wayward husband, drinking and spending his time with call girls, fills the bill. And Padmapriya as his wife has not fully utilised the scope offered to her.

Sukumari as Vijayakumar's mother is impressive.

The combination of Nagesh, Thengai Srinivasan and (late) Achacho Chitra provide the lighter vein.

Sankar and Ganesh have provided the music and Ramamurthy has photographed the film ably.

R. Thiagarajan has directed the film.

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## Vietnamese Films

Two feature films from Vietnam—THE YOUNG WOMAN OF BAI SAO and WE SHALL MEET AGAIN AS PROMISED—were screened at the Film Chamber preview theatre recently by the Directorate of Film Festivals, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India.

THE YOUNG WOMAN OF BAI SAO, produced by the Hanoi Studios, is based on a novel by Bui Dug Ai and directed by Pham Ky Nam in association with Tran Thien Liem and Nguyen Van Cua. The film depicts the situation in Vietnam when the country was in war with the French colonialists and the sufferings of the people.

WE SHALL MEET AGAIN AS PROMISED is about the Revolution in Vietnam. It is directed by Tran Vu and has a few fine and melodious folk songs.

The photography and other technical qualities of the films are of good standard.

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